

REMARKS

Response to Elections/Restrictions

The Examiner states that restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-8 and 10-17, drawn to an automated bargaining method, classified in class 705, subclass 26.
- II. Claim 9, drawn to value determination method, classified in Class 705, subclass 10.
- III. Claims 18-35, drawn to power round criterion method, classified in class 705, subclass 10.
- IV. Claims 36-47, drawn to a bargaining method, classified in class 705, subclass 37.
- V. Claims 48-59, drawn to bargaining method, classified in class 705, subclass 37.
- VI. Claims 60-65, drawn to Consummation method, classified in class 705, subclass 7.
- VII. Claims 66-84, drawn to Bargain agreement method, classified in class 705, subclass 35.
- VIII. Claims 85-88, drawn to bargaining transaction resolution method, classified in class 705, subclass 36r.
- IX. Claims 89 and 93, drawn to an automated on line bargaining method, classified in class 705, subclass 37.
- X. Claims 90 and 93, drawn to an automated on line bargaining method, classified in class 705, subclass 37.

- XI. Claims 91 and 93, drawn to an automated on line bargaining method, classified in class 705, subclass 37.
- XII. Claims 92 and 93, drawn to an automated on line bargaining method, classified in class 705, subclass 37.
- XIII. Claims 94-100, drawn to bargaining system, classified in class 705, subclass 35.
- XIV. Claims 101-105, drawn to bargaining system with facilitator, classified in class 705, subclass 10.
- XV. Claims 106-112, drawn to bargaining system with facilitator, classified in class 705, subclass 10.
- XVI. Claims 113-116, drawn to bargaining system, classified in class 705, subclass 37.
- XVII. Claims 117-127, drawn to automated bargaining system, classified in class 705, subclass 37.
- XVIII. Claims 128-133, drawn to automated system, classified in class 705, subclass 80.
- XIX. Claims 134-138, drawn to an automated system, classified in class 705, subclass 80.
- XX. Claims 139-144, drawn to system for automation, classified in class 705, subclass 80.
- XXI. Claims 145-153, drawn to multi-round bargain method, classified in class 705, subclass 35.
- XXII. Claims 154, drawn to case settlement method, classified in class 705, subclass 10.

According to the Examiner, the inventions are distinct each from the other because Groups I-XXII are unrelated as they either are not capable of use together or they have different modes of operation. The Examiner also notes that the inventions are

distinct because, among other things, they have separate status in the art as shown by their different classification.

Applicants respectfully disagree with, among other things, the designation of 22 groups, and respectfully traverse the requirement. In order to make this response responsive to the action, Applicants elect Group XIII with traverse. Applicants urge the Examiner to reconsider the restriction requirement. All of the Groups are in class 705. Among the 22 Groups alleged by the Examiner there are only 7 subclasses identified. With but one class and few subclasses, Applicants respectfully submit that the search burden is not great and can be performed all at once. A search and examination of all the pending claims and allowance of the all the claims is urged to be proper.

Conclusion

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this restriction requirement and an examination of all of the pending claims is requested. It is believed that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned at (212) 801-3170. The undersigned may also be contacted by e-mail at mcguireb@gtlaw.com.

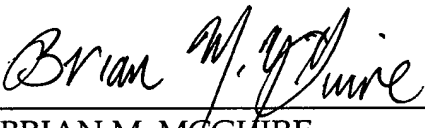
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1561.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 50-1561.

Date: May 5, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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